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2007-2008 School/Child Care Immunization Rule Change **Questions and Answers**

Draft of new rule is posted at: http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/vaccine_rules.htm

1. What will the new rules include?

- Tdap vaccine for students 11 years and older when 5 years have passed since the last tetanus/diphtheria vaccine dose (Implement Fall 2007).
- Meningococcal vaccine (MV) for students who are 11 years old (Implement Fall 2008) with an additional age level added each year through Fall 2014.
- Hepatitis A vaccine for 12-71 month old children in Maricopa County licensed child care settings (Fall 2007).

2. How soon will the Tdap vaccine requirement go into effect?

- Although the requirement will go into effect at the onset of the 2007-2008 school year, schools will be allowed the entire 2007-2008 school year to bring students into compliance with the Tdap requirement. A Substantive Policy Statement will be posted at http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/vaccine_rules.htm after the rules have been approved to document the grace period for implementing the Tdap requirement.
- At the onset of the 2008-2009 school year, all students 11 years of age and older must have a Tdap vaccination if 5 or more years have passed since their last tetanus/diphtheria vaccine dose.

3. When will the meningococcal vaccine (MV) requirement go into effect?

It will begin in September 2008 and will include students 11 years of age. The implementation schedule is as follows:

- September 1, 2008 for a child 11 years old
- September 1, 2009 for a child 11 years old through 12 years old
- September 1, 2010 for a child 11 years old through 13 years old
- September 1, 2011 for a child 11 years old through 14 years old
- September 1, 2012 for a child 11 years old through 15 years old
- September 1, 2013 for a child 11 years old through 16 years old
- September 1, 2014 for a child 11 years old through 17 years old
- September 1, 2015 for a child 11 years old through 18 years or older

4. Will meningococcal vaccine (MV) required for a child in 5th or 6th grade?

- In September 2008, a child who is 11 years of age will be required to have MV regardless of his/her grade level in school.

5. When will the hepatitis A vaccine requirement go into effect?

- Beginning in Fall 2007, children 12-71 months of age in Maricopa County licensed child care settings will be required to be immunized with a two-dose Hepatitis A series.
- After the rule has been passed, a substantive policy statement will be posted at http://www.azdhs.gov/diro/admin_rules/vaccine_rules.htm to document a grace period for implementing the requirement for the 12 to 23 month old children.
- Hepatitis A vaccination is not required for children to attend kindergarten. It is required in child care only.